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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 22 May 1950

SUBJECT Hydrogenation Plant at Rodleben

NO. OF PAGES 5

25X1A

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(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1A

1. General data:

The Rodleben (A 52/E 07) hydrogenation plant in the vicinity of Rossau (A 52/E 17), previously combined with the Duesseldorf (A 52/F 39) Henkel plant, was put into operation and partially enlarged and reconstructed by the Soviets immediately after the surrender in 1945.

No other plant of this type presently exists in the Soviet Zone of Germany. The plant belongs to the Sapotex VVB.

2. Location:

The plant is southeast of the Rodleben railroad station and west of the Rossau railroad station.

3. Management and work force:

a. The manager, Frieger, also has additional functions with the board of administration.

b. Work force: About 1,700 workers, including technicians, clerks and

Assistant chemists	400
Fitters	250
Unskilled workers	500
Juveniles	400
Factory police	110
Fire brigade	50

c. The factory police is on duty in shifts of 25 policemen each. The rest of the personnel act as car escorts with transports or, due to the increased oil supplies from the Soviet Union, as additional supervisors with the fat production department or as guards at the tanks.

4. Plant installations:

Plant laboratory and laboratory manager

Head of factory guard, work police and railroad guard

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-2-

Catehouses I through III

Storage

Dressing rooms

Coal storage

Power station, boiler house

Tanks

Hydrogen plant

High-pressure station

Engineering department

Engine house

*Pharmaceutical production

Pump station

Gas tanks

Research laboratory

Fitters shop

Paraffin-oxidizing department

Fat hydration plant

Naphthalene and fat hydration reserve plant

Fat-reducing plant

Oil-distilling department

Sulphonamide sulphonate department

(Naphthalene-cleaning department

Catalyzing and skin cream department

(see attached layout sketch)

5. Production:

a. Refining and hardening of the supplied oil destined for the margarine factories (about 1,200 tons per month are allegedly hardened).

b. The newly constructed paraffin-oxidizing department is said to generally produce oleic acid originating from crude paraffin ("Paraffingatsch") for soap production. The crude paraffin is supplied by the Troegitz (W 52/K 18) and Leitz (W 52/K 38) hydrogenation plants. The bulk of the production may be supplied to the Chemnitz (W 51/K 66) rewa plant.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-3-

- c. Manufacture of toilet soaps with a fat content of about 40 to 60 percent or 72 percent (almost exclusively for reparations deliveries).
 - d. Skin and basic ointments for the cosmetic industry.
 - e. Production of small quantities of better ointments, disinfectants ("Green" and "Percren"), and sulphonamide tablets for pharmacy.
 - f. Production of "Dekalin" (German petroleum) for asphaltene.
 - g. Hydrogenation of any other sort of animal and vegetable fats.
 - h. Production of lanette wax.
6. The power capacity is not utilized to even half of the available quantity.

Monthly generation:

Steam	about 20,000 to 25,000 m tons
Gas	about 350,000 cu.m.
Current	about 300,000 kwh
Water	about 800,000 cu.m. (originating from the Elbe River)

7. The paraffin-oxidizing department which also does research work, was newly constructed at the instigation of the Soviet occupation authorities at a total expense of 5 million Reichsmark within a very short time. They demanded that production be started as early as November 1944.

This department, as well as the research laboratory (largest and most modern in Central Germany) and the technical workshop, which are personally managed by Baytchikov and Iovbin, each of whom is head of a Soviet research group, are experimental establishments only. If good results are obtained a similar plant 10 times larger is to be set up in Deshanskoye near Saratov, in the Soviet Union.

25X1A

Comment:

- a. First engineer Belitzky and Dr. Ludwig Mannes are reportedly also members of the board management. They went to Kodelben when the hydrogenation plant was moved from Duesseldorf to Kodelben in 1944. Dr. L. Mannes is German manager of the research laboratory (compare with para 7 of this report). He is doing research work on amino sulphur products upon order of the Soviet research group which is headed by Professor Baytchikov. The office of this Soviet research group is at 43 Weselerstrasse, Berlin-Karlshorst.
- b. In addition to the projected paraffin-oxidizing plant in Deshanskoye near Saratov, preparations were reported for another paraffin-oxidizing plant in Kolomenskoye near Moscow. This plant projected by Dr. Mannes is on the type of the Witten/Quar fatty acid plant. It will allegedly process an annual quantity of 30,000 m tons of crude paraffin, generally shipped from the Caucasus oilfields. Work was started in Kolomenskoye as early as February 1944.
- c. A. r. Gerlach was entrusted with the management of the personnel section by order of the MVD. All employment with the plant is arranged by him.
- d. The goods produced in this plant were generally supplied to the Henkel factory in Duesseldorf, the Boehme fat-chemical plant in Chemnitz and the Henkel factory in Conthun until 1945.

2 Annexes: Hydrogenation Plant in Kodelben (2 sketches)

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-4-

Legend to Annex 2:

- A Oil-distilling department
- B Sulphonamide-sulphonate department
- C Reducing department
- Cl Disentled section
- D Department for partial hydrogenating
- E Naphthalene and hydratin reserve plant
- F Soap department including storage
- G Catalyzing and skin cream analysis
- H Naphthalene clearing department
- J Under construction
- J1 Newly constructed paraffin-oxidizing department
- K Pharmaceutical department
- L High-pressure analyzing department
- M Hydrogen plant
- N Contact and heating gas station
- O Pump station
- P Power plant
- Q Boiler house
- R Fuel tanks
- S Gas storage tanks
- T Coal dump
- 1a Plant laboratory and laboratory manager
- 1b Research laboratory, largest and most modern in Central Germany
- 1c Apprentices' laboratory
- 2 Head of factory guard and work police
- 3a Plant I
- 3b Plant II gatehouse
- 3c Plant III gatehouse
- 4a Men's dressing room
- 4b Ladies' dressing room

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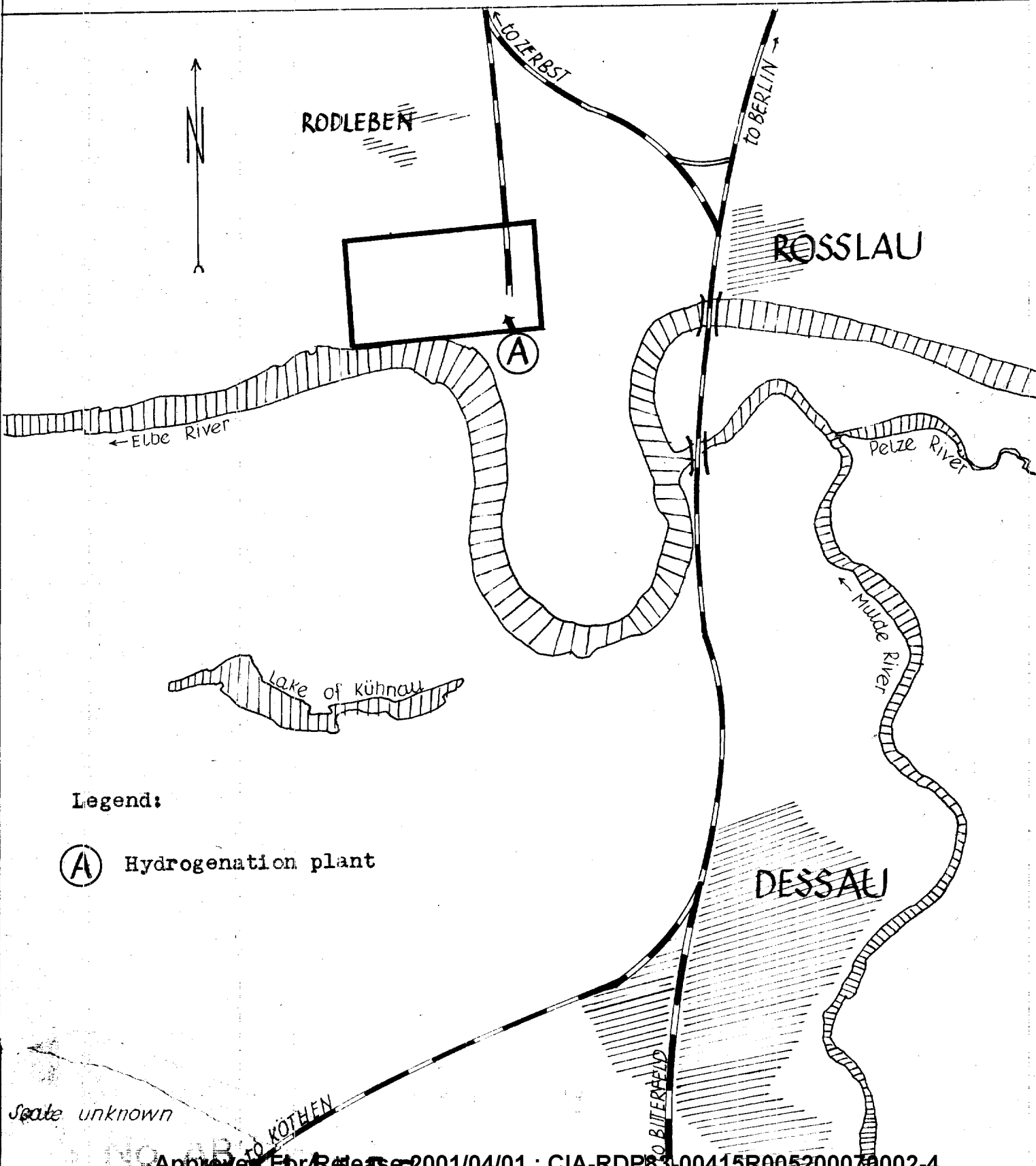
-5-

- 5 Storage
- 6 Dispatching shop
- 7 Little's shop
- 8 Workshop
- 9 Factory depot
- 10 Storage
- 11 Shed
- 12 Administration building
- 13 Engineering department
- 14 Cantonment building for social institutions
- 15a Kitchen
- 15 b Depot
- 16 Workers' mess
- 17 Fire Department
- 18 First aid station
- 19 Garage
- 20 Technical workshop
- 21 Engine house
- 22 Recreation house
- 23 Demolished bunker
- 24 WCs
- 25 Gate
- 26 Elbe River port with factory-owned dock
- I Dismantled esterifying department
- II Dismantled hydrogen department
- III Dismantled power plant.

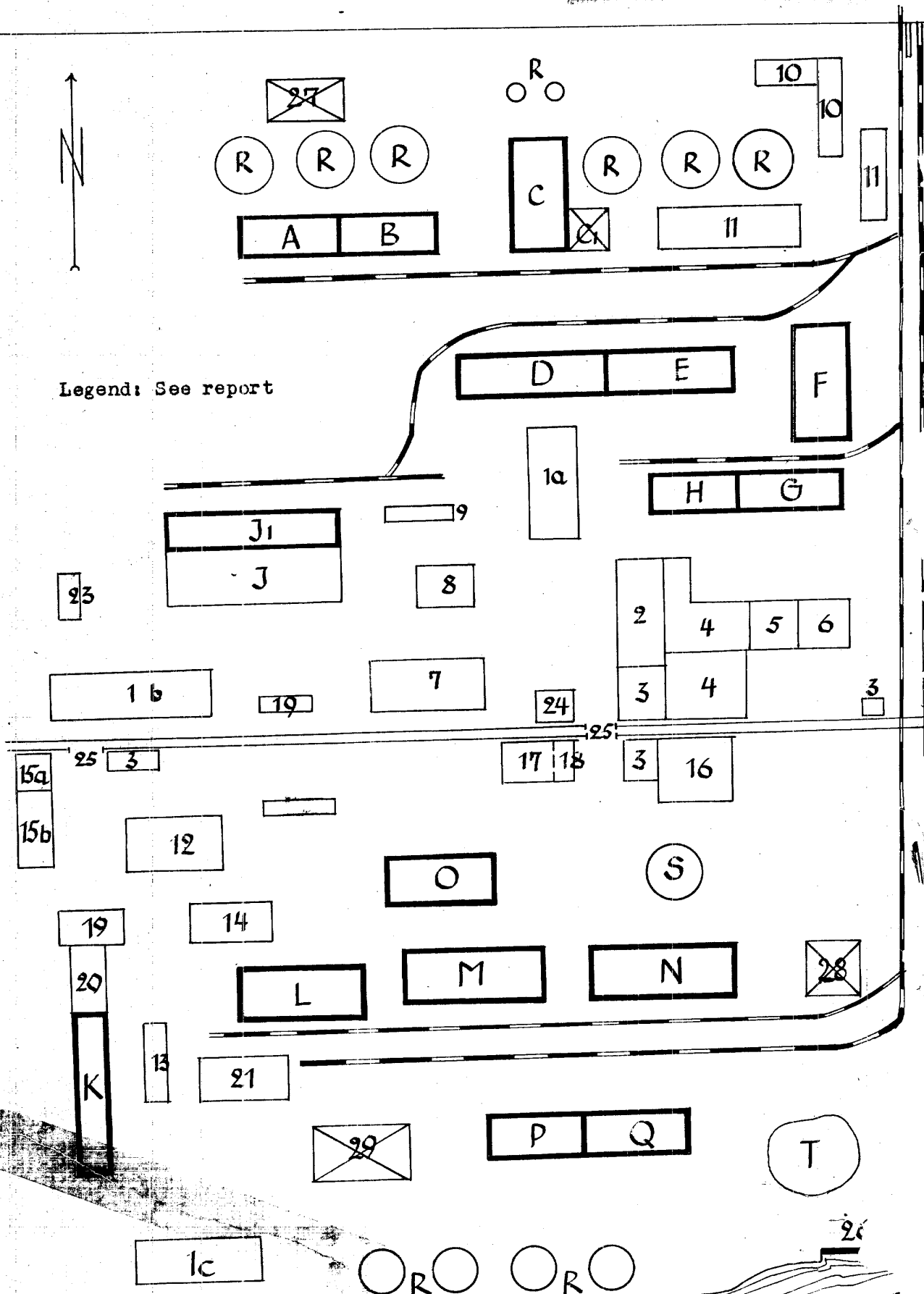
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Hydrogenation Plant in RODLEBEN



Hydrogenation Plant in RODLEBEN



Legend: See report

to scale

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